

plant.⁵ The original and one copy of the documentation must be submitted for validation, and the copy must be surrendered to the inspector at the time of validation.

(c) Documentation for a plant shall be validated under this section upon endorsement of the documentation by an inspector when he or she determines that the plant was apparently eligible for importation, exportation, or re-exportation in accordance with the provisions of this part and the provisions of 50 CFR chapter I relating to the Act and Convention.

(d) To obtain validation of documentation, the importer, exporter, or reexporter, or agent thereof, shall make available to an inspector:

(1) All shipping documents (including bills of lading, waybills, packing lists, and invoices):

⁵It is the policy of the Department of Agriculture to allow, if inspectors are available, terrestrial plants listed in 50 CFR 17.12 or 23.23 which are intended for export to be inspected at the premises where such plants are grown. However, the documentation required for the export of such plants by 50 CFR part 17 or part 23 shall only be validated at the port of export and only when such plants are presented at the port for export together with the documents required by 50 CFR part 17 or part 23 and a certified statement by the inspector who inspected the plants that the plants are apparently eligible for exportation in accordance with the provisions of this part and provisions of 50 CFR chapter I relating to the Act and Convention. Plants which have been previously inspected must be exported through a designated port (unless allowed by the United States Department of the Interior to be exported through a nondesignated port) in order to comply with section 9(f) of the Act [16 U.S.C. 1538(f)]. Plants which are inspected at the premises of origin must be available at the port of export for monitoring inspections and for other inspections deemed need for enforcement purposes, but, unless so inspected, will not need to be unpacked, inspected and repacked at the port. Information concerning the availability of inspectors to conduct inspections at the premise of origin may be obtained by calling local offices of Plant Protection and Quarantine, which are listed in telephone directories, or by writing the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine, Operational Support—Director's Office, 4700 River Road, Unit 131, Riverdale, Maryland 20737-1236.

(2) All documents required by the Act and Convention; and

(3) The plant being imported, exported, or reexported.

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[49 FR 42912, Oct. 25, 1984, as amended at 59 FR 67611, Dec. 30, 1994; 70 FR 57995, Oct. 5, 2005]

§355.23 Recordkeeping, access, and reports.

(a) Any person engaged in business as an importer, exporter, or reexporter of terrestrial plants listed in 50 CFR part 17 or part 23 shall keep such records as will fully and correctly disclose each importation, exportation, or reexportation of terrestrial plants made by such person and the subsequent disposition made by such person of the plants. Such records shall include shipping documents for each shipment of plants imported, exported, or reexported; a description of the form of the plants (such as whole live plants, cuttings, seeds, or other specific parts or derivatives of plants); the scientific and common names of the plants; the country or place of origin of the plants; the date and place of importation, exportation, or reexportation of the plants; the number (weight if the plants cannot be quantified by number) and specific location of plants; the date and means of subsequent disposition of the plants, whether by sale, barter, consignment, loan, delivery, destruction, or other means; and names and addresses of persons to whom the plants were disposed, if applicable.

(b) Every record required to be kept under this section shall be kept for a period of 5 years after the occurrence of the transactions to which the records relate, and for such further time as the Deputy Administrator may require by written notice to the person required to keep such records under this part for purposes of any investigation, litigation, or other proceeding under the Act or this part.

(c) Any person engaged in business as an importer, exporter, or reexporter of terrestrial plants listed in 50 CFR part 17 or part 23 shall, upon presentation of

credentials by an inspector or duly authorized representatives of the Secretary; during ordinary business hours of the person given notice, afford such inspector access to the person's place of business, the opportunity to examine the person's inventory of plants and the records required to be kept under paragraph (a) of this section, and the opportunity to copy such records. The use of a room, table, or other facilities (other than reproduction equipment) necessary for examination and copying of records and for such examination of inventory shall be afforded such inspector.

(d) Any person engaged in business as an importer, exporter, or reexporter of terrestrial plants listed in 50 CFR part 17 or part 23, upon written request by the Deputy Administrator, shall submit within 60 days of such request, a report concerning any of the information required to be maintained under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

(Information collection requirements were approved by the Office of Budget and Management under control number 0579-0076)

PART 356—FORFEITURE PROCEDURES

Sec.

356.1 Property subject to forfeiture procedures.

356.2 Appraisement.

356.3 Property valued at greater than \$10,000; notice of seizure and civil action to obtain forfeiture.

356.4 Property valued at \$10,000 or less; notice of seizure and administrative action to obtain forfeiture.

356.5 Bonded release.

356.6 Storage of property.

356.7 Petition for remission or mitigation of forfeiture.

356.8 Return procedure.

356.9 Filing of documents.

AUTHORITY: 16 U.S.C. 1540(f), 16 U.S.C. 3374; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, 371.3.

SOURCE: 49 FR 42916, Oct. 25, 1984, unless otherwise noted.

§ 356.1 Property subject to forfeiture procedures.

This part sets forth procedures relating to the forfeiture of any plant, equipment, means of conveyance or

other property¹ seized under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) or the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3371 *et seq.*),² in possession (actual or constructive) of the United States Department of Agriculture, and subject to forfeiture under these Acts because of activities pertaining to the importation, exportation, or reexportation of terrestrial plants.

[49 FR 46336, Nov. 26, 1984]

§ 356.2 Appraisement.

Promptly following the seizure or other receipt of property specified in § 356.1, the Deputy Administrator shall determine the retail value of such property in the same quantity or quantities as seized. If the property may lawfully be sold in the United States, the value thereof shall be determined by ascertaining the price at which the property or similar property in the ordinary course of trade is freely offered for sale at the time of appraisement, and at a principal market as close as

¹Under section 11(e)(4) of the Endangered Species Act ("Act"; 16 U.S.C. 1540(e)(4)) any such equipment and means of conveyance would be subject to forfeiture upon conviction of a criminal violation pursuant to section 11(b)(1) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1540(b)(1)); however, such a plant may be subject to forfeiture regardless of whether a criminal conviction is obtained.

²Under section 5(a)(2) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3374(a)(2)) USDA has authority to initiate forfeiture proceedings against all vessels, vehicles, aircraft, and other equipment used to aid in the importation or exportation of plants in a criminal violation of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 for which a felony conviction has been obtained if (a) the owner of such vessel, vehicle, aircraft, or equipment was at the time of the alleged illegal act a consenting part or privy thereto or in the exercise of due care should have known that such vessel, vehicle, aircraft, or equipment would be used in a criminal violation of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981, and (b) the violation involved the sale or purchase of, the offer of sale or purchase of, or the intent to sell or purchase plants. However, under section 5(a)(1) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3374(a)(1)) plants seized for violations of the Amendments are subject to forfeiture regardless of whether a civil penalty assessment or criminal conviction is obtained.